



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

MEMORANDUM TO CITY DESKS

For Release MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1940.

Official Washington opening of the oyster season will take place tomorrow, September 3, with the arrival from New York of Howard W. Beach, President of the Oyster Growers and Dealers Association, at the Washington Airport, at 9:30 a.m. He will be met at his plane by Lewis Radcliffe, Director of the Oyster Institute of North America, and officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, who will accompany him for the morning's activities.

Following this, at 10:30, Beach will present the first oysters of the season to Mrs. Henrietta Nesbitt, head housekeeper of the White House. Delivery of these oysters--destined ultimately for the President's table--will be made at the back door of the Executive Mansion.

To Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, also, Beach will convey a tray of selected oysters. This presentation, which will be a private one at 11:30, will be made with the assistance of Radcliffe.

The morning's ceremony will be continued in the Department of the Interior cafeteria at 12:30 p.m., where Under Secretary of the Interior Alvin Wirtz will preside. He will there present to invited newspapermen and officials, and certain noted Washington trenchermen, several barrels of oysters shipped in for the occasion. Sandwiches, crackers, condiments, and coffee, will also be served.

Arrangements have been made to accommodate photographers for each of the scheduled appointments:

9:30 a.m. - Arrival of Beach at Washington Airport with the first oysters.

10:30 a.m. - Presentation of first oysters of season to the President through Mrs. Nesbitt at the White House.

12:30 p.m. - Presentation of oysters by Under Secretary Wirtz to newspapermen and other guests.

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